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Russia. Tribunaux d'arrondissement without a Jury.		France. Tribunaux correctionnels.	
Offences.	Acquittals per Cent.	Offences.	Acquittals per Cent.
Libel .....	54.5	Libel.....	30.8
Wounding and assaulting.....	49.5	Perjury.....	23.4
Destruction of property.....	38.1	Manslaughter.....	16.2
Swindling, breach of trust.....	37.6	Swindling, breach of trust.....	10.4
Perjury.....	37.0	Offences against morality.....	7.0
Homicide.....	25.0	Wounding and assaulting.....	6.3
Rebellion and assaults on officials..	16.0	Destruction of property.....	6.2
Theft .....	13.7	Theft.....	5.7
Vagrancy and Begging.....	6.0	Vagrancy and Begging.....	2.4
		Rebellion and assaults on officials.....	2.3

The greatest proportion of acquittals by a jury are reported from Southern Russia. But, as regards acquittals in decisions by magistrates without a jury, the most indulgent districts are those in the west, although the juries in these same districts are severe; so much so that in 11 courts (*tribunaux*) in the west and northwest of Russia in Europe the magistrates acquit more often than the jury.

#### STATISTICS OF TRADE UNIONS.

The *Ninth Report of the Chief Labor Correspondent of the Board of Trade* on Trade Unions deals with the statistics for 1896.

Year.	Total Number of Trade Unions.	Membership of All Trade Unions. Thousands.	Membership of 100 Principal Trade Unions. Thousands.
1892	1,184	1,461	913
1893	1,239	1,453	917
1894	1,285	1,424	931
1895	1,316	1,397	921
1896	1,330	1,487	966

From the returns received it appears that there are 127 trade unions that have female members, the aggregate number of such members amounting to 108,578.

The following table shows the amount of expenditure for different purposes of these unions :—

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE BY 100 PRINCIPAL UNIONS.

Class of Expenditure.	Amount of Expenditure in Thousand Pounds.				
	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Unemployed, etc. benefits .....	349	459	463	438	285
Dispute benefit.....	357	594	158	190	155
Sick and accident benefits.....	208	240	229	263	246
Superannuation benefit.....	102	112	122	131	141
Funeral benefit .....	69	75	69	76	75
Other benefits and grants.....	82	123	122	49	64
Working, etc. expenses .....	251	252	280	258	270
Total.....	1,420	1,858	1,446	1,408	1,239

NOTES.

An illustration of the difficulty of using statistics of institutions where delinquents are kept is furnished by the *Report of the State Work-house and House of Correction*, in *The Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Board of State Charities and Corrections of Rhode Island, 1897*. In 1897, 852 persons were committed to the institution as compared with 829 in the previous year, thus showing an increase of 23. At the close of 1897, however, there was a smaller number in the institution than at the close of 1896. These apparent inconsistencies are reconciled by the fact that more inmates were discharged during the year than previously.

It is noted that the offences for which persons had been committed during the past two years as given from the mittimus have changed, but this improvement is due in a measure to a variation in the names of offences; for example, the number of persons convicted as being drunkards is less than in the two immediately preceding years. At the same time the number of the vagrant class is largely increased. About 40 per cent of the persons committed in 1897 were of foreign birth, 75 per cent were wholly and about 5 per cent were partly of foreign parentage.